

Jammin' with Jellies

ABOUT OUR JELLIES



Blubber jelly

Size: Bell diameter between 12 and 18 inches.

Appearance: This jelly is mostly bell, with short, stubby arms that look like cauliflower.

Range: East and north coasts of Australia; Asia.

Habitat: Bays and estuaries.

Diet: Zooplankton (small organisms that drift in the ocean).

Fun fact: Blubber jellies are a delicacy in many Asian countries. If you order “rubber band salad” in China, you would get blubber jellies in a dish named for its crispy but elastic texture.



Crystal jelly

Size: Bell grows up to about 10 inches in diameter.

Appearance: Clear bell which can give off a green-blue glow around the rim. Long, thin tentacles.

Range: Bering Sea and Pacific Ocean along the West Coast of the U.S. and Canada from Alaska to California.

Habitat: Coastal bays.

Diet: Crustaceans, zooplankton, other jellies and larvaceans.

Fun Fact: Crystal jellies' green fluorescent protein, or GFP, is used as a biological marker that's instrumental in medical research. For example, it allows scientists to see how cancer spreads in living cells.



Egg yolk jelly

Size: Bell grows up to 2 feet in diameter, tentacles can trail 20 feet.

Appearance: Think broken egg in water, only it's a jelly fish. Or, think poached egg, with the yolk intact.

Range: Eastern Pacific temperate waters from Gulf of Alaska to Chile, including Puget Sound; Atlantic Ocean and Mediterranean Sea.

Habitat: Open water.

Diet: Other jellies

Fun fact: Crabs and other crustaceans sometimes catch a ride on the egg yolk jelly's bell.



Japanese sea nettle

Size: Bell diameter up to 12 inches, with tentacles up to 10 feet long.

Appearance: Light-colored bell with dark orange lines radiating in a sunburst pattern from the center.

Range: North Pacific Ocean around Japan.

Habitat: Coastal waters, Sea of Japan.

Diet: Small crustaceans, molluscs, fish eggs and larvae, and other jellies.

Fun fact: Ninjas reportedly used powder made from Japanese sea nettles as a weapon, blowing the stinging substance into enemies' eyes.

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